

GUIDELINES FOR NEW GRADUATES OF APN PROGRAMS
PRACTICE PRIOR TO
BOARD OF NURSING APN CERTIFICATE

These guidelines seek to assist registered nurses who have graduated from an approved school of nursing leading to a master's degree or higher in a clinical specialty area with questions regarding practice before the board grants an advanced practice nurse certificate.

1. A graduate not holding a Board of Nursing APN certificate may not use the title APN or represent him/herself as a nurse practitioner, nurse midwife, nurse anesthetist or clinical nurse specialist until the certificate is granted.
2. Practice only under the direct, on-site supervision of an APN or MD who holds the same specialty area of practice. [e.g. psychiatric clinical nurse specialist/nurse practitioner graduate supervised by psychiatrist; pediatric nurse practitioner, supervised by pediatrician or family practice physician (pediatric clients only)] Direct supervision means overseeing with authority. It does not require side-by-side supervision.
3. Protocols are required and must be made available to the board or its representative upon request. Graduates from nurse anesthesia programs are not required to have protocols.
4. 100% of charts/records must be reviewed/signed. Nurse anesthetist graduates follow health care facility policy/regulations in this matter.
5. The supervising APN/MD is responsible and accountable for the acts of the new graduate.
6. The graduate, as a RN, is responsible for his/her acts and must not perform those acts he/she is not prepared to perform by education and practice.
7. No prescription writing until certified by the board as an APN with certificate of fitness.
8. The supervising APN/MD or agency (clinical facility) may choose to limit the scope of practice of the graduate as deemed appropriate.
9. Under these guidelines the graduate must have made application for the appropriate recognized national specialty certification examination. In the event the graduate is not successful on the first exam attempt, it is expected that the graduate would immediately inform the supervising practitioner and cease to practice in an advanced role until such time the certification exam is passed and Board APN certificate granted.